

Appln No. 10/760,186  
Amdt. Dated June 29, 2006  
Response to Advisory Action Dated May 30, 2006

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### REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicant thanks Examiner for the detailed Office Action dated August 8, 2006. In response to the issues raised, the Applicant offers the following submissions and amendments.

#### Amendments

Claims 1 and 5 have been amended to correct the typographical and grammatical errors identified by the Examiner. Claims 1 and 5 have also been amended to clarify that one or both of the mating features on the two components of the housing are deformable. The deformation of the mating features allows them to disengage so that the two components of the housing are free to move relative to each other. This feature is shown in the engagement of the protrusion 168 with the pre-plunge recess 165 described in page 28 and depicted in Figures 37-39. Accordingly, the amendments do not add any new matter.

#### 35 U.S.C. §102 - Claims 1, 3 and 4

Claims 1, 3 and 4 stand rejected for lack of novelty in light of the disclosure in US application 2002/0171718 to Park.

Claim 1 has been amended to clarify a key distinction between the present invention and the cited reference. In particular, the ability of at least one of the mating features to deform in order to disengage. This allows the dispenser to have a simple design with a minimum of separate parts. Minimizing number of components and the complexity of the component shapes has significant manufacturing advantages. It also simplifies the assembly of the dispenser with 'snap together' parts being quicker to join together than threaded components.

In contrast, the Park dispenser has four major components. The outer housing 10 needs a barrel section for the plunger and a rotatable cap. Then the plunger and spring need to be loaded into the housing such that the spring is loaded and urging the plunger toward the outlet. The locking plate 42 and the locking cap 30 do not disengage by deformation of either component but rather by rotation of the cap relative to the plunger and the lower part of the housing 10. Skilled workers will readily appreciate that the dispenser according to the present invention is far more efficient to produce and assemble.

In light of the above, US application 2002/0171718 to Park does not anticipate claims 1, 3 and 4.

#### 35 U.S.C. §103 - Claims 2 and 5

Claims 2 and 5 stand rejected as obvious in light of the disclosure in US application 2002/0171718 to Park in view of US 2004/0055661 to Yuen.

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As discussed above, Park fails to teach or suggest the disengagement of the mating features by deformation. Yuen also fails to teach this feature. Both claim 2 (by virtue of its appendence to claim 1) and amended claim 5 incorporate this feature. Therefore, and the combined disclosures of the cited references do not teach all the elements of claim 2 or claim 5, both claims are non-obvious.

It is respectfully submitted that the Examiner's rejections have been successfully traversed and the application is now in condition for allowance. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration of the application is courteously solicited.

Very respectfully,

Applicant:



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